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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3042
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RHMFISS/HQ USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

UNCLAS MINSK 001163

SIPDIS

DEPT ALSO FOR CA/OCS/ACS URBINA-MITTNACHT

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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [MOPS](#) [PTER](#) [PGOV](#) [CASC](#) [BO](#)

SUBJECT: Bombing in Vitebsk

¶1. At 2217 hours on September 22 a small bomb detonated inside a discotheque at 35A Lenin Street in Vitebsk, north-eastern Belarus. Approximately 40 people were injured, three or four of them are considered to be in serious but not life-threatening condition. There were no fatalities and no Americans are believed to have been involved.

¶2. The IED was inside a beer can, which was also packed with nails and other metal shrapnel. One police source reports the bomb was detonated remotely, although that cannot be confirmed at this time. On September 14 another beer can bomb exploded inside a flower box on Frunze Street in Vitebsk, injuring two. It is unknown if these events are related. Local police have opened a criminal investigation and are offering a BYR 4 million [USD 1,860] reward for information. No suspects have been named, and the GOB has stated it does not/not think these bombings were related to terrorism.

¶3. Post will continue to follow these events.

KROL